

# Lake Okeechobee Schedule Revision Performance Measure Evaluation

Bruce Sharfstein Ph.D.  
Lead Environmental Scientist  
Lake Okeechobee Division



# Performance Measures

➤ Main performance measures were those approved by CERP ReCoVer.

- LO-1: Extreme Low Lake Stage
- LO-2: Extreme High Lake Stage
- LO-3: Stage Envelope (above and below)

➤ Additional performance measures used.

- % of time within stage envelope
- Number of times that lake level exceeds 15' for more than 365 days

# LO-1: Extreme Low Lake Stage

- Lake stage <10'
- Target: 0 weeks
- Worst case: 15 weeks with stage <10' (or 540 weeks for the 36 year period of record)
- Converted to standard score: higher score is better

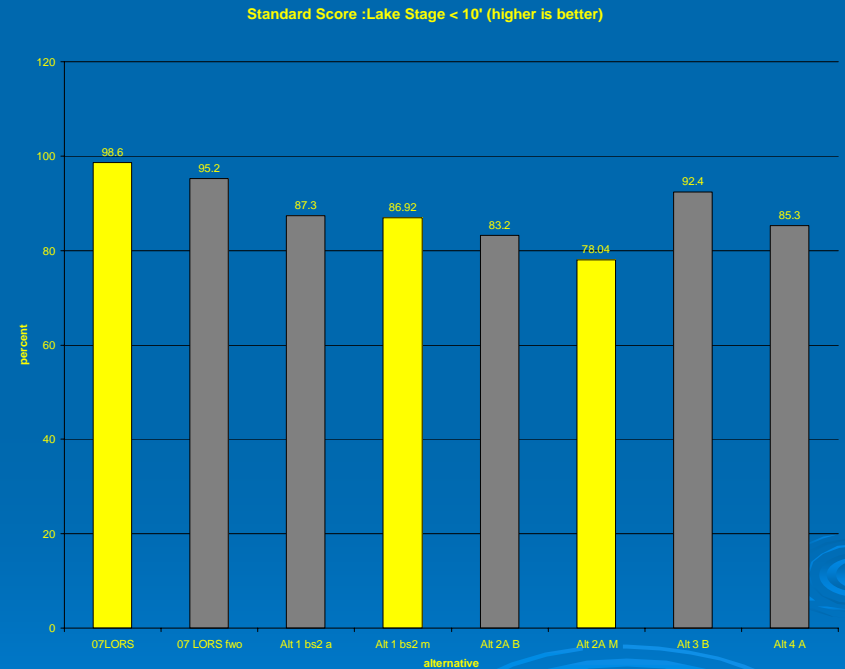
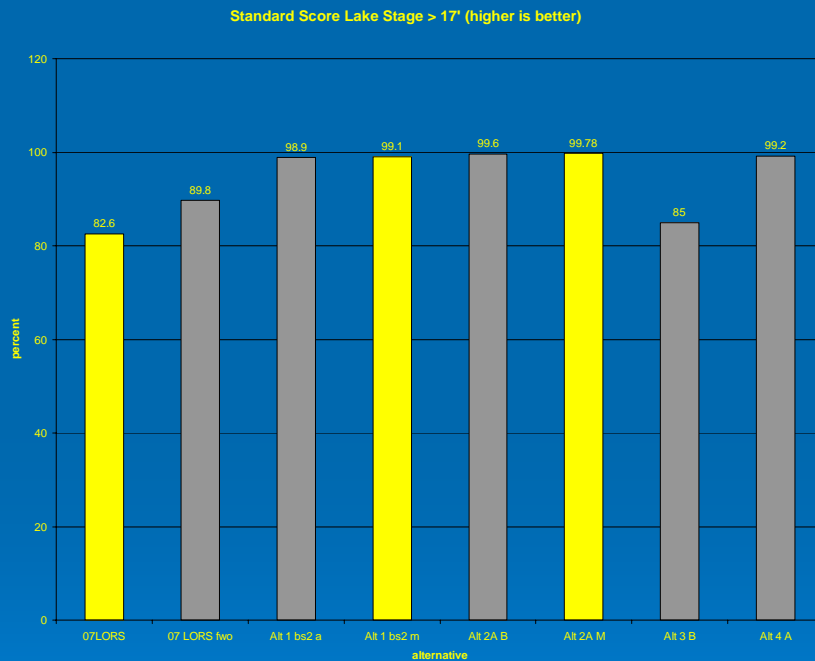
# LO-2: Extreme High Lake Stage

- Lake stage  $>17'$
- Target: 0 weeks
- Worst case: 11 weeks with stage  $>17'$  ( or 396 weeks for the 36 year period of record)
- Converted to standard score: higher score is better

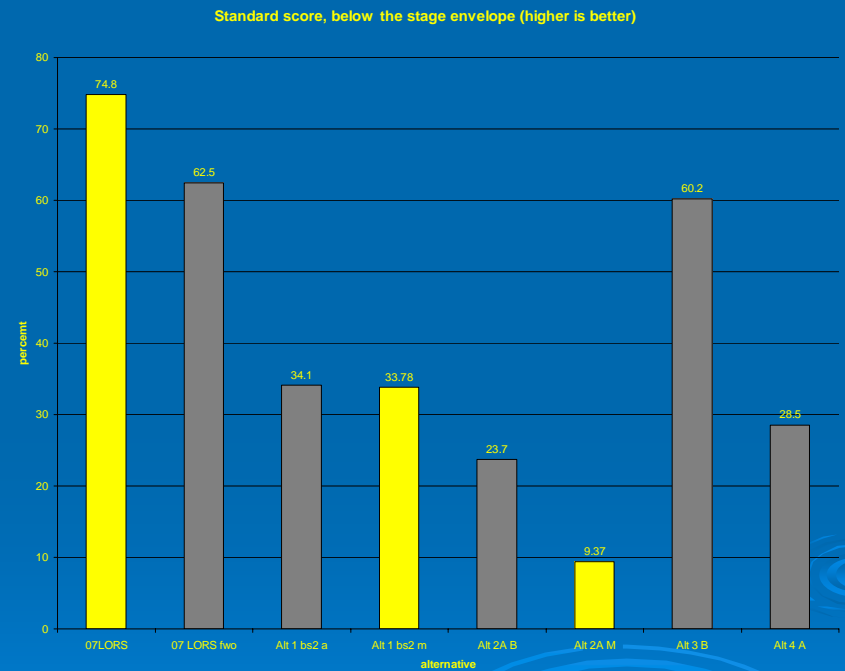
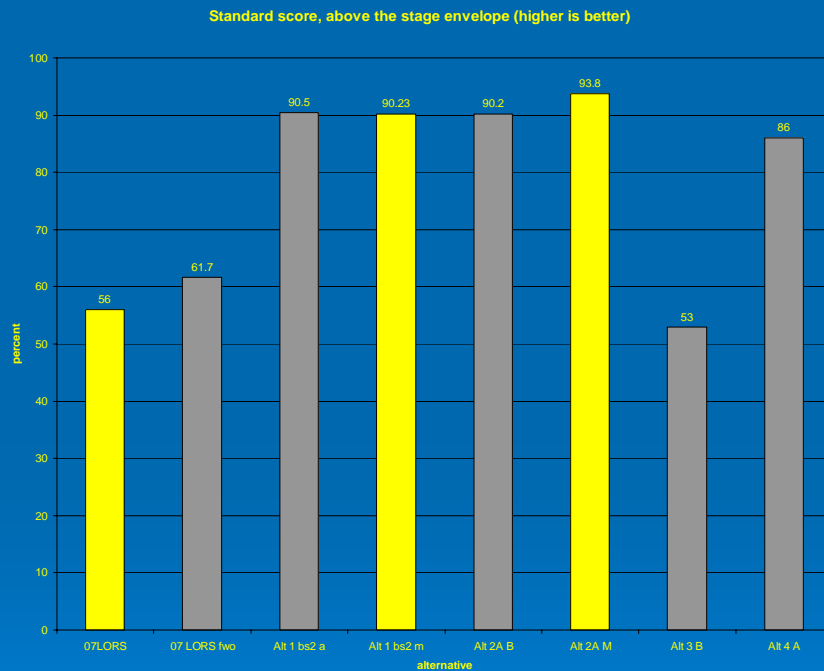
# LO-3: Stage Envelope

- Above and below stage envelope are independent standard scores
- Above the stage envelope:
  - Target: 0 weeks
  - Worst case: Lake always 1' above stage envelope
- Below the stage envelope:
  - Target: Once per decade, stage falls below 11' for 3 months
  - Worst case: Stage always below 11'

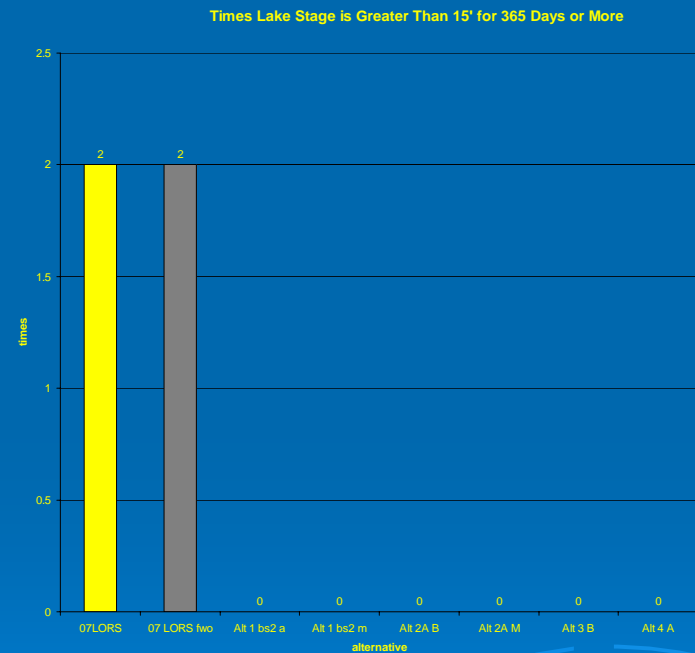
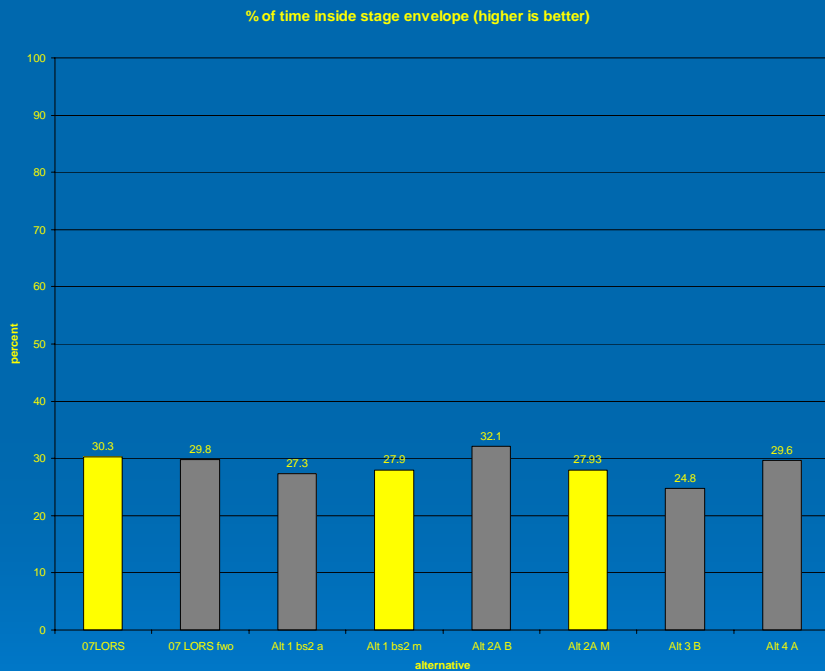
# Extreme High and Low Lake Stage



# Above and Below Stage Envelope



# Additional Performance Measures





	LORS 07	1 bs 2-M	2a-M
# times < 11'	12	22	26
# times < 10'	3	10	11
% of time < 10'	0.4%	3.8%	6.4%

Lake Stage	+	-
10'	-Encourages germination of bulrush	-Littoral zone dries out -Loss of habitat -Expansion of exotic and invasive vegetation
11'	-Oxidation of organic muck in littoral zone -May improve emergent species diversity	
12'		-75% of snail kite foraging habitat is dry
13'		- 100% of current snail kite nesting habitat is dry
12-15' stage envelope with a spring recession. Optimal for SAV, fisheries, wading birds		
17'		-Direct physical uprooting of emergent and submerged plants. -Near shore turbidity reduces SAV growth -Habitat loss -Likelihood of forming an organic berm